

### REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings and the specification. Proposed drawing amendments are included herein. Applicants will provide new formal drawings upon receiving an indication from the Examiner that the proposed amendments are acceptable and an indication of allowable subject matter. Pursuant to the proposed drawing amendments and the above amendments to the specification, Applicants request that the Examiner's objections to the drawings and the specification be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 9, and 16 have been amended. New claims 17-19 have been added. Support for the amendments may be found at least at lines 12-20 on page 10 of the Patent Application. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1-19 are pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Partovi, et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,964,884). The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.


Partovi is directed to methods of determining critical timing path sensitivities. However, Partovi does not describe or suggest accessing a first file including information indicative of at least one test operation. Partovi also fails to teach or suggest configuring a timing parameter of a particular macro in the semiconductor device based on the information included in the first file. Furthermore, Partovi does not teach or suggest modifying a second file including information indicative of a configuration of the semiconductor device or determining a second maximum operating frequency of the semiconductor device configured in accordance with the changed timing parameter and the second file. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated by Partovi and requests that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-16 be withdrawn.

New claims 17-19 depend from independent claim 1. Thus, for at least the aforementioned reasons, Applicants submit that claims 17-19 are allowable over the art of record.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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